

Hospital Discharges

(Ambulatory Sensitive Conditions)

Prince George County, Year 2000

(2003 report pending as of 12/20/04)

Condition	Number	Rate*	VA Rate*
Psychoses	164	548.2	501.9
Asthma	44	147.1	157.3
Diabetes	35	117.0	123.6
Hypertension	4	13.4	22.8
Extreme Prematurity / Respiratory Distress Syndrome	2	6.6	6.5

*hospital discharges per 100,000 population

Definitions

Ambulatory Sensitive Conditions- conditions that can be prevented with consistent, available ambulatory care and good patient compliance with treatment/self-care protocols. Hospital admissions may indicate access issues (e.g. lack of insurance), or few options for service, or the presence of social issues that can influence patient adherence (e.g. homelessness, inconsistent caregivers).

Asthma- a chronic, potentially life-threatening disease of the lungs, most often seen in children and young adults.

Hypertension- also called high blood pressure, it directly increases the risk of coronary heart disease (which leads to heart attack) and stroke, especially along with other risk factors.

Diabetes- a disease in which the body does not produce or properly use insulin, a hormone that is needed to convert sugar, starches, and other food into energy.

Psychoses- any one of a number of mental disorders without a clearly defined physical cause or structural change in the brain. Characterized by abnormal and /or antisocial behavior.

Extreme Prematurity/RDS- severe breathing impairment of premature newborns due to underdevelopment of the lungs. The leading cause of death of premature infants in the U.S.